

Maginot Line Never Really an Impregnable Fortress System, Says Gen. Gamelin

(This is second of a series of articles on France's defeat in 1940. The first appeared in the paper last week.)

By GEN. NAURICE-GUSTAVE GAMELIN (Copyright, 1945, by the Associated Press)

Paris, July 18.—I have a passion for definitions, and this is the reason I am writing this article. Therefore, I ask "What was the Maginot Line?"

On this point there are still some serious ambiguities. There are many people even in France who believe the country lay sheltered behind the "La Ligne Maginot," and that it protected all our strategic frontiers. To claim public opinion was misled is to say the least. The Maginot Line was not a line of forts, but a system of permanent fortifications in the Moselle region and in the Luxembourg area.

From a technical point of view, the system was composed of a series of installations, the most important of which were the "fortified zones" between the Rhine and the Luxembourg area, which we called "the fortified zone" and "the fortified zone."

As to the difference between the two, on the Rhine, no forts were built, only two lines of pillboxes, widely spaced, and the bank itself and the German army.

On the other hand, on the level of the first villages of Alsace, the works were extended from Thionville to Longwy, and in 1932 the question was raised by the government of the Maginot Line. There were only a series of pillboxes on the edge of the forest for the defense of the Moselle.

The Marshal Pétain torpedoed the plan. After I succeeded General Weygand as supreme commander, it appeared to us that it was very late to begin large scale construction of works which would require several years of work. It was not until 1934 that we broke out at any moment, and that we began to build. It was available to be put into work in 1935, and it was not until 1936 that it was completed.

To complete our "Maginot Line," we had to build a network of iron wires, fields of mines, and other defenses, and by building blockhouses to give depth to the position.

To close gaps in our system of fortifications, we had to extend it to Dunkerque on the left and to the Luxembourg area on the right by merely creating what we called "the fortified zone" and "the fortified zone."

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4 More Jap Cities Fired by Bombers

By WILLIAM F. TYBEE (UP)

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New York, July 18.—(UP)—Italy's declaration of war on Japan today, on the heels of a shattering air and sea bombardment of the Japanese capital, has been followed by a series of attacks on Japanese cities.

The mighty ship giants raised to the air, the number of Japanese cities attacked in the past few days.

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He's a Family Man, You Might Say

Flashies of Life

NICE BABY

DOG'S LIFE?

AGREED!

CHRISTIAN IN AUGUST

U. S. Scatters Leaflets to the Japanese

More Trucks for Civilians in 90 days

Jap Propaganda Sees Possibility of a Surrender

Polish Army Unlikely to Return Home

Woodmen Practice True Democracy

Butadiene Plant Seized for U. S.

Cpl. Jim's Still Alive in Ft. Worth

The Diamond Mark of Fiscal Officers Is Least Known of All Insignia in the Army

13 Hurt as Blasts Rock Big Arsenal

5,332 Ships Join Navy in Last 5 Years

Dutch Princess Juliana and Her Family Go Home

Boll Weevil Is Reported Breaking Out in Pulaski Co.

Many Inquiries Are Received for State-Owned Land

Special Butane News

We are now taking orders for Butane and Propane tanks, also the plumbing.

If you want a tank now or expect to buy one when the war is over it will pay you to see or call us at once.

HARRY W. SHIVER

Plumbing and Heating

Hope, Ark.

Phone 259

L. R. Needs 50 Parliament New Houses to Decide on Belgian King

London, July 17.—(UP)—The Belgian parliament today voted to take over the power of the king, and the king will retain his crown. He had expressed a desire to abdicate, but the people's desire in the matter was not to be.

Ignoring Leopold's suggestion, the parliament today voted to take over the power of the king, and the king will retain his crown. He had expressed a desire to abdicate, but the people's desire in the matter was not to be.

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Our Daily Bread

Sliced Thin by The Editor

The Cotton Picker

Some Facts About the New Machine

A Number of local men are over in the cotton fields.

Having received an earlier edition of the machine, the cotton picker is now being used in the cotton fields.

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Home

46TH YEAR: VOL. 46—NO. 228

337 Die in Jap Blast on Ticonderoga

By COURTESY MOORE

Washington, July 18.—(UP)—Three hundred and thirty-seven American fighting men were lost in the Ticonderoga today.

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